

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

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UNCLAS TUNIS 0228

E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP TS
SUBJ: BUILDING MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT
TRACE MISSION: APRIL 1978.

REF: A. 77 TUNIS 8684 (NOTAL
B. 77 USDOC 24309
C. 77 USDOC 23348

1. EMBASSY PREFERS TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS FOR TRADE MISSION AS WE CAN OBTAIN DISCOUNT FOR ALL MISSION MEMBERS (USUALLY 15- 25 PERCENT). EMBASSY SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING HOTELS IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE: AFRICA, INTERNATIONAL TUNIS AND HILTON. AFRICA IS THE HOTEL WE HAVE USED IN PAST FOR TRADE PROMOTION EVENTS WITH GREAT SUCCESS. INTERNATIONAL TUNISIA IS NEW HOTEL AND LIKE AFRICA IS CONVENIENTLY SITUATED DOWNTOWN. HILTON, WHILE QUITE ACCEPTABLE, IS NOT LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN AREA. THIS WE CONSIDER TO BE MAJOR DRAWBACK WHEN HOSTING TRADE PROMOTION EVENTS.

2. THE MORNING OF FIRST DAY (APRIL 12) WE PROPOSE A GENERAL MEETING WITH OFFICIALS IN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, MINING AND UNCLASSIFIED

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ENERGY, AS WELL AS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, FOLLOWED POSSIBLE BY PRESS CONFERENCE. IN AFTERNOON AND DURING WHOLE FOLLOWING DAY, WE PLAN INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS AT HOTEL. IF PARTICIPANTS DESIRE, INDIVIDUAL VISITS TO PLANTS, IN THEIR SPECIFIC AREAS OF INTEREST, CAN BE ARRANGED. EMBASSY PLANS TO HOST RECEPTION FOR TRADE MISSION MEMBERS.

3. PRELIMINARY BUDGET:

- SUITE FOR CHAIRMAN	\$294.00
- CONFERENCE ROOM	392.00
- HOSPITALITY	700.00
- INTERPRETERS (5 FOR 2 DAYS)	1000.00
- BUS RENTAL	200.00
	\$2586.00

4. EMBASSY PREFERS THAT MISSION COORDINATOR RUAN VISIT AFTER CONCLUSION OF MINING EQUIPMENT SEMINAR (ENDS MARCH 6) -- ANYTIME AFTER MARCH 8 AND BEFORE WEEK OF APRIL 3 WOULD BE SATISFACTORY.

5. PARA 2 OF REFTTEL B DOES NOT INDICATE WHICH DAY, APRIL 11 OR 12, TRADE MISSION PLANS TO TRAVEL TO TUNIS. IF MISSION ARRIVES IN EARLY AFTERNOON OF APRIL 11, EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO HOST RECEPTION FOR THAT EVENING. ALSO IT LISTS STAY IN TUNIS AS APRIL 12-13, AND NEXT STOP AS YIYADH APRIL 15. DOES MISSION PLAN APRIL 14 AS TRAVEL DAYS. PLEASE ADVISE.

6. EMBASSY REGRETS THAT USDOC DECIDED (REFTTEL B) NOT TOH START SEMINAR WEEK OF APRIL 16 AS PROPOSED BY REFTTEL A. DECISION TO HOLD TRADE MISSION ON HEELS OF NEA ECONOMIC/ COMMERCIAL OFFICER'S CONFERENCE (APRIL 3-7 IN TANGIERS) PLACES UNNECESSARY STRAIN ON LIMITED MANPOWER RESOURCES
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OF THIS EMBASSY BY ALLOWING ONLY TWO WORKDAYS (APRIL 10 & 11) BETWEEN END OF NEA CONFERENCE AND BEGINNING OF TRADE MISSION.
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